

THE SOUTHWESTER

A Monthly Non-Profit Publication of the Southwest Community Council

December 1996

SERVING SOUTHWEST

Free

SWNA FINDS NEW TEAM WITH NEW PLAN FOR SYPHAX SCHOOL REDEVELOPMENT: SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH AND ENTERPRISE FOUNDATION ARE CO-DEVELOPERS

by Marc A. Weiss

In the September issue of the Southwester, the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly reported on the community design workshop held on July 27 to generate a new community redevelopment plan for the Syphax School site at Half Street between N and O Streets. The Neighborhood Assembly has been working with members of the Southwest community for the past two years to clear the site of crime and drug activity, keep it clean and safe, and find a developer to turn it back to productive uses that will bring dignity and economic benefit to the neighborhood and the city. The main focus of the SWNA's efforts has been on bringing Affordable Homeownership Opportunities to the site, and nearly everyone in the community agrees that Homeownership will add value to the neighborhood physically, economically and socially, and is a practical solution from a real estate market perspective. Homeownership would consist of new townhomes being built on the site and then sold to working families, including potential homebuyers living in public or private housing near the site.

The other goal of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly is to preserve the original Syphax School building, built in 1901, and named in honor of Dr. William Syphax, the first African-American educator to play a leadership role in the District of Columbia school system. The other two vacant Syphax School buildings, built in the 1950s, can and should be demolished to make room for the development of new townhomes.

Such preservation and restoration will be expensive -- perhaps as much as two million dollars -- and throughout the past two years, it has been unclear who could afford to pay for the restoration and what will be done with the building once it is restored. This issue of preserving the historic school building was so contentious and difficult that the D.C. Habitat for Humanity affiliate, which had been working with the SWNA on a plan to build homes on the site, backed out of the project due to lack of interest in restoring the original Syphax structure.

The Southwest Neighborhood Assembly called a community meeting on September 30 to follow up on the July community design workshop and discuss next steps for redeveloping the Syphax School site. The meeting was held at the Second Baptist Church on M and Canal Streets, just two blocks away from Syphax School. At that meeting, Reverend H. Joseph Franklin, Pastor of Second Baptist Church, informed the Assembly that his church has been actively searching for a new site, and would be very interested in restoring the original Syphax School building and



Group from Second Baptist Church meets about Syphax School.

turning it into a church. Reverend Franklin recounted the history of the Second Baptist Church, which has been located in the Southwest neighborhood for many generations, and fought to stay in the neighborhood when its original church building and land were taken by the D.C. government for the Southwest Urban Renewal Project. The members of the Second Baptist Church, while losing their land, fought to stay in the community and did obtain a very small site for a new church, which they built at their current location.

The Second Baptist Church is very committed to community service, and operates a day care center, education programs, and other activities, but the size of its congregation and the potential demand for these services have essentially outgrown their existing facilities. Even Sunday church services have to be held in two shifts, because the current sanctuary is not large enough to accommodate the entire congregation at one time. Therefore, several years ago a young architect who belongs to the church, Gylenn Moten, had built a model of a new, larger church, and the members of the Second Baptist Church have been looking for a site to build a bigger church. The historic Syphax School building would be a perfect location for a church, and rather than build a new structure, the Second Baptist Church would restore the existing building, with plenty of room for church activities and community service facilities.

Reverend H. Joseph Franklin indicated that the Second Baptist Church would be able to raise the funds necessary to preserve the 1901 Syphax School building and turn it into a church. Further, he stated the willingness to work with the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly to find a co-developer to build affordable townhomes for private homeownership on the rest of the Syphax site. On that basis, the SWNA voted to support the Second Baptist Church in their

efforts to redevelop the Syphax School site. Dr. Beryl Rice, SWNA President, designated Dr. Marc Weiss, SWNA Vice President, as the liaison between the two groups.

The first task was to find a co-developer, and the community was fortunate to convince the Enterprise Foundation to play that role. The Enterprise Foundation was founded in 1982 by the late James Rouse, the world-famous Baltimore developer whose Rouse Company built Harborplace in Baltimore, Faneuil Hall Marketplace in Boston, South Street Seaport in New York, the new community of Columbia, Maryland, and many other developments. Mr. Rouse and his wife Patty created the Enterprise Foundation to provide financial and technical assistance to non-profit groups building affordable housing and engaging in community revitalization. The first group Jim and Patty Rouse worked with was Jubilee Housing in Washington, D.C. Since then the foundation has assisted hundreds of groups nationwide to build thousands of housing units with millions of dollars in funds that Enterprise has helped obtain from private sector investors and donors. The foundation established two subsidiaries, the Enterprise Social Investment Corporation, which attracts private investors through syndication of federal Low-Income Housing Tax Credits and other means; and the Enterprise Construction Corporation, a builder and developer of affordable housing and homeownership. The Enterprise Construction Corporation has built more than 800 attractive townhomes in Baltimore, Philadelphia, and other locations, including Capitol Heights, Maryland in nearby Prince George's County. Enterprise Construction works with non-profit community-based and faith-based organizations to build and market the homes, such as Baltimoreans United in Leadership Development (BUILD), Philadelphia Interfaith Action (PIA), and the Interfaith Action Communities (IAC) of Prince George's County.

On Friday evening, October 4, Dr. Weiss of the SWNA, Ron Wilson of the Enterprise Construction Corporation, and Ann Wilcox, the elected Ward 2 representative on the D.C. Board of Education, met with the Trustees of Second Baptist Church. The Trustees voted to join hands with Enterprise Construction to redevelop the Syphax School site and to call an emergency meeting of the entire Second Baptist Church to discuss the proposed commitment. On Saturday, October 19, more than 200 members of the Second Baptist Church gathered to hear from Dr. Weiss and Mr. Wilson, and after two hours of spirited discussion, the

(Continued on page 8)

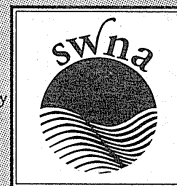
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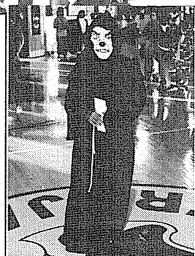
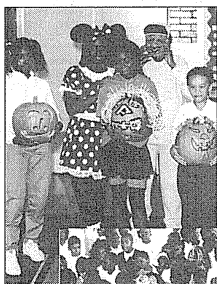
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SWNA Meeting

The November meeting of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, SWNA will be on Monday, November 25th at St. Matthew's Church, 3rd & M St.s at 7:00 p.m. Anthony Williams, Chief Financial Officer of Washington, D.C. will be speaking. It should be a very interesting meeting. Come with questions in-hand.



Halloween fun at Jefferson Jr. High



Come to the Annual Holiday Party

on Thursday, December 12 at 7:30 p.m. As in past years, the party will be hosted by the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly. It will be at Jenny's Restaurant. We want to thank them for having this gala again this year. Lots of the neighborhood restaurants will contribute food so that the evening will be extra special and filling. Instead of buying a ticket to get in, bring a wrapped toy or something warm for a kid or an adult to use this winter season. All of the gifts will be given to Southwest Community House and the Randall Shelter.

THE SOUTHWESTER

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Drop off your stories by Jan. 8, 1997, in the box behind the counter at the SW Library, 3rd & I SW, or mail to:
The Southwester, P.O. Box 70131,
Washington, D.C. 20024.
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The objective of the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly, a.k.a. SWNA is:

to improve the quality of life for all residents of the Southwest; to open to every Southwest resident the wide cultural horizon of modern urban living; to help create rich an equal social, educational and economic opportunities for every boy and girl of the Southwest; to assist in providing the opportunity for gainful employment for every adult resident; to promote development of the aesthetic potential of the Southwest. These objectives shall be pursued without regard to the social, economic and racial barriers that have divided cities in the past.

Anthony Bowen and D.C. Child & Family Services Foster Home Recruitment & Retention Program

During October 1996, Anthony Bowen Elementary School and the Washington, D.C. Child and Family Services Foster Home Recruitment and Retention Program entered into an exciting partnership that promises to have an impact upon and empower many individuals and families of Ward 2.

"The goal of the Child and Family Services is to create a dynamic, community-based outreach effort that utilizes churches and schools to help publicize the need for foster homes through a 'Foster Care Sunday'," stated Daniel Craddock, supervisor of the Foster Home Recruitment and Retention Program.

Recruitment staff were thrilled when Anthony Bowen School principal, Rosalie B. Huff, agreed to provide an art class to make fans which will be placed in various churches in Southwest. In addition, When Ms. Emma Jean Dunham's 5th grade class was presented with the idea of designing artwork for children in need of homes, the response was heartwarming and overwhelming. The children created colorful, poignant messages that included "Every child deserves a family" and "Please save the children." Ms. Dunham articulated "I believe this project really helped the children to see that there are others in need and they can make a difference." The newly-appointed Reverend Dr. G. Martin Young, Pastor of Friendship Baptist Church, graciously accepted the challenge to inform the community of the dire need for foster parents. On October 13, 1996, Reverend Young and the recruitment staff presented a rousing appeal to an extremely exuberant and receptive Friendship Baptist Church congregation. Although the overall recruitment efforts were a richly-rewarding and successful experience, the need for foster parents continues to grow. For information on how you can make a difference in a child's life, call (202) 727-3161.

Jefferson Celebrates International Peace Day

In an assembly at Jefferson Jr. High the program included:

Parade of Nations
Mistress of Ceremonies - Nia Harris
Master of Ceremonies - Grid Gremi
Musical selection by Alvin Hough, Jr.
Recognition of Peacemakers for the 21st Century - Danielle Brewer and Maria Bennet

Chinese Ribbon Dance
Sing-along "We Are the World"
Tributes to Advocates for peace:

Mahatma Gandhi
Mother Theresa
Nelson Mandela
Boutros Boutros Ghali
Dit Pran
Aung San Suu Kyi
Yitzak Rabin
Yasir Arafat
Martin Luther King, Jr.
Rosa Parks

Embassies which participated were: Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Hungary, Kyrgystan, Lithuania, Malaysia.

Dances were by Anna Martinez and the Paco Flamenco Dancers of Arlington, Va.



A flamenco dancer



The Chinese Ribbon Dance



Students joined the dancing

SOUTHWEST COMMUNITY CALENDAR

(November - December 1996)

Nov 25 Monday: Southwest Neighborhood Assembly General Meeting: Anthony Williams, CFO, of DC, speaker: 7:00p.m. St. Matthews Lutheran Church.

Nov 25 Monday: Zoning Commission Hearings on Buzzard Point Zoning 7:00p.m. Office of Zoning Hearing Room.

Nov 27 Wednesday: Southwest Community Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Service, 7:00p.m. Office of Zoning Hearing Room.

Dec 3 Tuesday: First District MPD Citizens Advisory Council; 7:30p.m., 1D MPD Headquarters, 415 4th St. SW.

Dec 4 Wednesday: Christian Faith and Contemporary Film, View and discuss "The Fisher King", 7:00p.m., Westminster PC, 484-7700.

Dec 5 Thursday: Zoning Commission Hearings on SWURP; 7:00p.m., Office of Zoning Hearing Room, 441 4th St. NW, Suite 220.

Dec 9 Monday: Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2D; 7:00p.m., Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 I St. SW.

Dec 12 Thursday: SWNA Community Christmas party at 7:30p.m. at Jenny's, 401 M St.

Dec 18 Wednesday: AARP SW Chapter 4751 Christmas Luncheon; Noon, Pier Seven Restaurant, 650 Water St. SW.

Dec 19 Thursday: NARFE Chapter 2052; 1:30p.m. Southwest Branch Library, Wesley Place & KSt., SW.

Dec 24 Tuesday: For Christmas Eve Services, check the Religion page in this issue.

Jan 14 Tuesday: EPA Martin Luther King Jr. Service; Noon to 3:00p.m.; Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 I St. SW.

Please submit calendar items to C. Hargrave (202) 554-8284

NetDay at Leckie

by Phillip R. Oliver

In the 1990s, President "Bill" Clinton has embraced high technology, and proposed that every school, both public and private, be connected to that main thoroughfare of the information superhighway - the Internet. This is reminiscent of the 1960s when President John F. Kennedy challenged the nation by reaching for the stars...and a lunar landing.

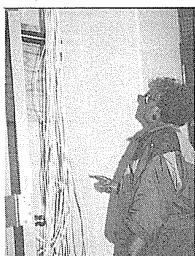
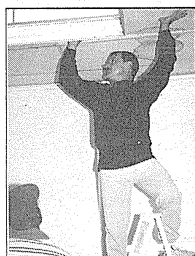
On Saturday, October 12, 1996, M.V. Leckie elementary school, in far southwest, took a step closer to the realization of President Clinton's goal. For on that day, Leckie launched its "NetDay". The NetDay enterprise, organized locally by Tech Corps - DC is part of a nationwide effort to wire all schools for access to the Internet. It made a debut in California earlier this year as "NetDay 96". It has been endorsed by the president and vice president, by Senators John Warner and Charles Robb of Virginia, by Senator Paul Sarbanes of Maryland and D.C. School Superintendent Franklin Smith. The strength and appeal of NetDay is that it functions without the direct use of taxpayer money.

At Leckie, many elements came together that clear fall day to make the activity a success. Over sixty parents, staff members and community volunteers came out to the school and watched an instructional video, organized into teams, laid the cable infrastructure, applied Panduit to walls, installed patch boxes, prepared meals, provided child care, brainstormed and addressed envelopes. News Channel 8 covered the event.

Dr. Reuben Pierce, technology enthusiast and principal of the school, was on hand to monitor progress and had this to say: "Truly an exhilarating experience watching and participating with the many volunteers, along with technical experts, virtually completing the wiring of our school in a little more than one day."

Leckie is not alone in this endeavor. Schools all across the city have scheduled NetDays.

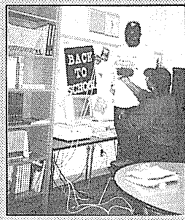
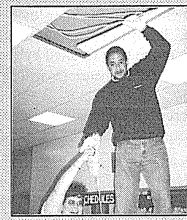
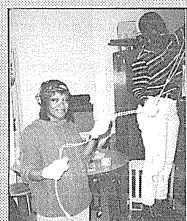
Anthony Bowen was wired in late October. Please see the photos of Leckie and Bowen. Most were scheduled for this fall but a few are scheduled for spring '97. Check with your neighborhood school for details, or surf the World Wide Web to NetDay's home page at <http://www.cgcs.org/netday-east/> for more information. To reach Leckie with a donation, to volunteer or for information, call 202-645-3330 or FAX 202-645-3331.



WWA to Host 8th Annual Parade of Lights

One of the season's most festive events, the Parade of Lights, is scheduled for Saturday, December 14. Beginning at 6:00 pm, a line of boats festively decorated by members of local Potomac River yacht clubs will parade up the Washington Channel, from the Municipal Pier to the Capital Yacht Club. At the head of the parade will be none other than Santa Claus, aboard the D.C. fireboat John H. Glenn. The public is invited to view the spectacle from the waterfront promenade. For further information, please call the Washington Waterfront Association, 202-363-0565.

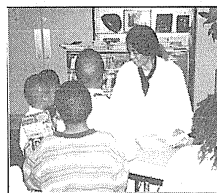
Bowen Parents and volunteers wire Anthony Bowen school for the Internet.



Odyssey Hosts Thanksgiving Cruise For Less Fortunate

Odyssey cruises hosts their second annual Thanksgiving Cruise for 450 of DC's less fortunate. Guests from So Others Might Eat (SOME), the Southwest Community House and the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Washington will cruise on Tuesday, November 26, 1996, at noon.

Guests will feast on a traditional thanksgiving meal featuring turkey with all the trimmings, fresh vegetables, mashed potatoes, stuffing and homemade pies prepared by Odyssey Executive Chief David Robinson.



Children pick out books at a book fair at Amidon School.



Christ United Methodist Church's monthly Saturday morning breakfast.



SENATE DRY CLEANERS

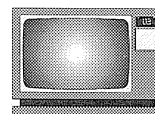
IN THE WATERSIDE MALL
488-9018

- TAILORING AND ALTERATIONS DONE ON PREMISES
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Community-Oriented Policing Implementation Plan

by Kathy Smith

The purpose of Community-Oriented Policing is to move the MPD from reacting to crimes, as they occur, to a proactive approach to crime. This proactive approach is geared toward working with the community to solve problems and to change the urban environment in a way that prevents crime. It is designed to unite police officers and residents in a team approach to policing. Although the city has some very diverse neighborhoods, the plan is designed to encompass all those neighborhoods to the extent possible. As it is fully implemented across the city, it will be fine-tuned for specific problems.

The plan was developed after an extensive review of successful programs in other cities and a thorough examination of the operational needs of the MPD and the nature of Washington's communities.

Community-Oriented Policing works on the understanding that public safety is as much the responsibility of the community as of the police. Neither one will be successful without the help and cooperation of the other.

The Operational Concept And Plan:

1. Existing scout car beats will be reconfigured, based on neighborhood and community boundaries. The present beats were developed some 20 years ago and many are no longer practical.

2. A Community Resource Officer (CRO) will be assigned to each new community beat. Policy officers will apply for the job of CRO and be selected on the basis of skills, basic knowledge, and desire to work closely with the community.

3. The CRO will work closely with members of the community and other MPD officers and personnel to identify

problems and develop solutions. There will be much more contact with the community through beat strategy teams which will include community representatives as part of the teams. Officers, especially the CRO's will have more responsibility, more public exposure, and a bigger stake in crime and quality of life issues in the community.

The CRO's will become the most visible part of the policing establishment and will have a real opportunity to make a difference in the quality of life of the neighborhood. We should expect to see some of the best and brightest officers becoming CRO's.

4. Their sergeants and the community beat team leaders, will also have a greater stake in the public safety picture in that community. They and their commanders will have to ensure that the officers have the tools they need, including those from the MPD and those from the larger city community or other city agencies.

5. Under Community-Oriented Policing, the public will have a better knowledge of the local crime picture, of the resource requirements of their police officers, and whether those needs are being met. They too will share a responsibility in making sure the officers get the resources they need.

6. Most officers will work permanent shifts so that residents can get to know their officers. Permanent shifts have proven to be much less stressful, than rotating shifts, to the officers.

7. There will be special training and workshops for police officers, police officials, and members of the community.

8. Deadlines are in place for implementation and are as follows:

a.) November 4, 1996 -- development of selection criteria for position of CRO.

b.) December 2, 1996 -- submission of beat boundary and beat staffing plans to the Chief of Police. Determine number of sectors for each district. Develop procedures and criteria for assigning patrol personnel to permanent shifts.

c.) December 16, 1996 -- issue vacancy announcements for position of CRO.

d.) February 3, 1997 -- development of software programs to help determine success of new versus old beat boundaries. Develop curriculum for community beat strategy team workshops.

e.) March 2, 1997 -- assign CRO's, team leaders (sergeants) and sector leaders (lieutenants). Implement permanent shifts throughout police districts. Conduct training for these personnel.

f.) April 4, 1997 -- Establish community beat strategy teams.

Inspector Broadbent added that the police are working with the community about new beats. There will be a proposal to the Chief on December 2, 1996.

Ward 2 Plan: Suggestions presented by: Richard Westbrook (ANC 2D01)

In the land use section of the Ward 2 Plan, replace existing Section 1353.1(c) with the following:

(c) Revitalize and redevelop the Southwest waterfront along Maine Avenue as a major destination and service area for the currently 20 million visitors to the Nation's capital city, with consideration of the following:

(1) Indicate, with attractive and informative signs, improved, safe, pleasant and convenient pedestrian walkways between existing tourist attractions along 14th Street S.W. and those on the Mall and the Southwest waterfront.

(2) Develop a small "festival marketplace" type of retail complex in the area of the existing Washington Marina. Optimally, the current bulkhead under the Case Bridge spans should be extended into the Channel to provide additional space for the marketplace.

(3) Develop a Terminal Facility for tourmobiles, shuttle buses, tourboats, and water-taxis, with a related auto and tourbus parking structure on the East Potomac Park side of the Washington Channel, between 14th Street and the Case Bridge.

(4) Develop an appropriate waterfront museum, such as a Washington Harbor History Museum using the Washington Marina dock and boat slips to display a variety of commercial and fishing boats associated with the harbor's history and development.

(5) Provide additional parking, and refurbish, where necessary, the Municipal Fish Market area following the relocation of the structures housing the fish cleaning and vendor support activities.

(6) Modify and improve the designated parking areas, P-1 through P-6, along Water Street for buses and autos to provide better service and convenience for visitors to the waterfront, especially patrons of the Waterfront's commercial activities.

(7) Construct a "boardwalk" type connection between the existing lower promenade and the proposed Terminal Facility on East Potomac Park. The "boardwalk," incorporating a pedestrian bridge across the channel near 14th Street, would also link the Fish Wharf with the "festival

marketplace."

This was submitted to the Office of Planning as an amendment to the Ward 2 Plan. It has to be reviewed. If the mayor approves it, it will go to the City Council by the end of January. If it is accepted, public hearings will be held.

If the community is in support of this amendment, send letters to the ANC office at Westminster Church, 4th and I Streets, S.W.

New ANC Members

WINNERS IN THE ANC RACE FOR WARD 2 check w. Richard Westbrook

2D01 Richard Westbrook
2D02 George Holmes
2D03 Toni Cassidy
2D04 Linda Eckles
2D05 (waiting for the board to count write-ins)
2D06 Gloria Hamilton

Club #4 Vikings 1996, Pee Wee Weight Division Football Team

Front Row-Left to Right: Andre Byrd, Roland Clements, James Byrd, Rickie Clements, Darnell Duncan, Kenneth Rice, Donald Brown.

Back Row-Left to Right: Head Coach Gregory Shaw, Joel Mallory, Terrell Jackson, Alexander Evans, Gregory Randolph, Carl Harris, Brandon Petty, Curtis Allen, Jarvis Hopkins, Asst Coach Officer E. Lyles. Missing from picture: Victor Hall, Daniel Benton, Calvin Bowie, Asst Coach Corey Young.

First Holiday Dance

I'm old enough. I'm old enough
I finally get to go

To the great affair. I will be there
At the holiday dance for sho

Beginning at 9 years old

Each year I'd sit in a trance

Watching the older boys and girls

Go out to the holiday dance

I am ready!

I've learned makeup from the older girls

I know exactly how to do my hair

My friends have taught me how to dance

I have the most beautiful dress to wear

With one part I'll need some help

That is with cute Jimmy Lee

The boy I've loved all my life

I pray he will dance with me.

I can see it now. I can feel the thrill

I know how it will be

I will feel a stare. Look around

Into the eyes of Jimmy Lee

I will take his out-stretched hand

And just like in the picture show

We will exchange innocent smiles

Then strut out to the floor.

After that everything will be fine

Hope your holiday is as great as mine.

by: Margaret H. Oliver



Southwest Community House Again Sponsors Dollars for Scholars

Last year the Southwest Community House (SWCH) began a program to reward good students for earning good grades. Any student who lives in the near Southwest area (in ZIP code 20024) that is in third grade through senior in high school is eligible. Students must come to the Southwest Community House with their report card, where they will receive cash for the "As" and "Bs" earned in the academic subjects (not classes such as art, music, health and physical education).

This year the cash earned will be greater for the older students (junior and senior high). The amounts awarded will be as follows: Elementary school - grades 3 thru 6: \$5 for each "A" and \$3 for each "B" (maximum = \$25). Junior high - grades 7 thru 9: \$7 for each "A" & \$4 for each "B" (maximum \$40). Senior high - grades 10 thru 12: \$10 for each "A" & \$5 for each "B" (maximum - \$50).

In addition, any student who has perfect attendance for the advisory period will earn \$5.

By the time this "Southwester" is distributed, students will already have received their first report card of the school year (mid-November). Students must come to the Southwest House at 156 Q Street, within two weeks of receiving their grade. However, for any student unaware of the program before reading this article, you will be awarded what you earned as long as you come in soon. Students will not be seen during school hours, but can come in any afternoon Monday thru Friday until 5:30 pm.

Last school year over 200 Southwest students participated in this program. The SWCH Board of Directors appeals to the community to support this very worthwhile effort to reward our youth for earning good grades. Any contributions are greatly appreciated, and should be sent to the Southwest Community House, 156 Q Street SW, Washington, D.C., 20024. Rick Bardach (488-7210)

Southwest Chapter of "Best Friends" Celebrates 10 Years

by Yolonda D. Earl

The Best Friends Program is going into its 10th year as a school-based program for teenage girls that teaches how and why to say no to drugs, violence, alcohol and sex. The girls can join the program in the fifth through the ninth grade. Once they reach high school they participate in the Diamond Girls program, an extension of Best Friends.

During the 1996-97 school year, over 2,000 girls from 14 cities including Baltimore, Houston, Charlotte, N.C., and Los Angeles will participate in the Best Friends program. Major supporters include American Standard Co., Avon Products Foundation, The Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

The program was founded in 1987 by Elayne Bennett, a faculty member of Georgetown University's Child Development Center and wife of William Bennett, a former chief of the Department of Education, best known for his strong anti-drug stance and author of "The Book of Virtues".

Amidon Elementary School and Jefferson Jr. High were the first of many public schools to participate in The Best Friends. Angela Rice, coordinator of the program at Jefferson, said, "The program is trying to help the girls find the lost art... (of being) 'the lady'."

The girls in Best Friends join in group discussions every three weeks during the school year. They talk about important issues affecting young girls, such as, friendship, love and dating, self-respect, drug and alcohol abuse. They also have women of the community come and discuss important decisions which they have made. They participate in special cultural events and community service projects, and they enjoy an End-of-the Year recognition ceremony, in which each girl is honored for her achievements by community leaders, like Gen. Colin Powell and Barbara Bush, as well as teachers, parents and friends.

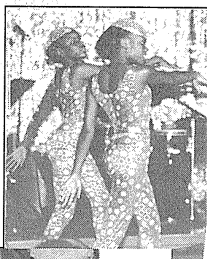
A recent study of more than 400 participants showed the effectiveness of the Best Friends program. The study was conducted and financed by Dr. David Rowberry for his doctoral dissertation at the University of Colorado. It showed that 63 percent of the girls in D.C. public schools had experienced sex by the age 15 while only 4 percent of the girls in Best Friends in grades 6-10 had done so. The pregnancy rate for girls in D.C. public schools in grades 9-12 was 26 percent compared to only 1 percent of the girls in the Best Friends program.

For information on the program, call Angela Rice at Jefferson, 202-724-4881.

THE RECEPTION



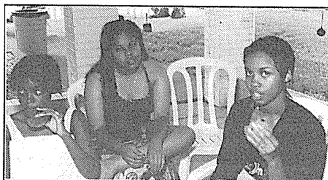
1. Angela Rice shown above at reception ceremony as Barbara Bush congratulates Best Friends participants.



2. Gen. Colin Powell and his wife, join Mr. & Mrs. William Bennett to congratulate Best Friends members.



3. & 4. Best Friends participants enjoy dance performances at Recognition Ceremony.



5. Best Friends Members enjoy snacks at a pool party

SW DC LINCT

Would you or someone you know in Southwest like to learn to earn a computer? Our organization, SW DC LINCT, is a non-profit volunteer program designed to unify and strengthen our diversified Southwest community. We are interested in people who are interested in uplifting themselves and others. We have computer trainers, service technicians, graphic designers, etc., who have donated their precious time and talents to help this program become a unique opportunity for anyone who wants to become involved.

If you would like to share this learning, earning, and enriching experience, you are welcome to call 298-1317 for more information.

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142 206 G ST SW	\$119,000	CAPITOL PARK IV	3	2	
125 227 G ST SW	\$119,000	CAPITOL PARK IV	3	2	
B111 1435 4TH ST SW	\$115,000	RIVERSIDE	2	2	1
N-404 430 M STREET SW	\$99,000	TIBER ISLAND	2	2	2
810 700 7TH ST ST SW	\$94,000	TOWN SQUARE	1	1	
N511 430 M ST SW	\$89,000	TIBER ISLAND	2	2	1
1253 CARROLLSBURG PL SW	\$79,000		3	1	
112 P ST SW	\$65,000		2	2	
N226 510 N ST ST SW	\$55,000	HARBOUR SQUARE	1	1	
512 300 M ST SW	\$54,900				
S-126 1311 DELAWARE AVE S	\$52,000	RIVER PARK	2	3	
W307 490 M ST SW	\$49,900	TIBER ISLAND	1	1	
W204 490 M ST SW	\$44,000	TIBER ISLAND	1	1	
S738 1311D DELAWARE AVE A	\$42,000	RIVER PARK	2	2	
N-525 1301 DELAWARE AVE S	\$42,000	RIVER PARK	2	2	
N-512 1301 DELAWARE AVE S	\$42,000		2	2	
N410 430 M ST SW	\$32,000	TIBER ISLAND	0	1	
E 240 M ST ST SW	\$32,000	CARROLLSBURG		1	
N104 1301 DELAWARE AVE SW	\$29,000	RIVER PARK	1	1	
N-535 1311 DELAWARE AVE S	\$27,000	RIVER PARK	1	1	
N-303 1301 DELAWARE AVE S	\$27,000		1	1	
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Southwest Actors and Neighbors

by Wallace Babington

Have you ever seen someone in Safeway that you were sure you knew from somewhere? But where? Who is that guy? Chances are that guy is Richard Bauer. Richard and his wife, Halo Wines, are Arena stage stalwarts who also happen to live in our Southwest neighborhood. They have been our neighbors for over three decades now. They have also been a part of Arena Stage productions for that many years.

Richard and Halo attended Catholic University together, fell in love, married during their Senior year, went into the acting business together, settled in Southwest and raised a family here: a daughter and son. Their daughter still lives in the Washington area and their son is an aspiring actor in New York City. Richard and Halo moved into Southwest when it was still in the process of becoming a community. Their choice was to follow acting opportunities wherever they were available or settle down as part of a regional theater such as Arena and live a relatively normal life. It is our good fortune that they chose the latter option: we gained two outstanding actors for Arena and a caring and involved family in Southwest.

Over the years both Halo and Richard have been part of acting companies other than Arena. In fact, now that Arena has no permanent, resident acting company, they are both increasingly involved in other dramatic ventures such as Olney Theater. But Arena is still a significant part of their careers and the Southwest neighborhood is still home.

The audience appreciation and enduring respect that they have earned over the years is evident time and again when they appear on stage at Arena and receive applause before they even speak. That applause is an expression of esteem and admiration that have developed as audiences have watched these two bring characters to life and create magic on stage. They are real people of caring, warmth and concern. Their success on stage is not accidental.

Next time you are in the Safeway and wonder, "Who is that guy?", it's probably Richard. You can speak to him. He's always glad to know his neighbors. He is one of us.

Socks, Pacifiers, and Angels

If you are looking for a way to meet real human needs in Southwest this holiday season, consider purchasing a new pair of socks, a baby shower item, or a gift for the child of someone in prison. Socks will be donated to those living at Randall Shelter. Baby gifts will be distributed to young mothers receiving care at the Southwest Clinic. Through the Prison Fellowship Angel Tree program, Christmas presents are being purchased for Southwest children whose fathers are in prison (a specific wish list has been provided). To take part in any of these outreach projects contact the co-pastors, Brian and Ruth Hamilton at Westminster Presbyterian Church (484-7700) or contact your nearest faith community to learn about other holiday opportunities for making a difference in the life of a Southwest neighbor.

BOOK REVIEW

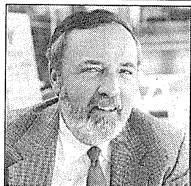
by Wallace Babington

JACK AND JILL

by James Patterson

This is not the Jack and Jill nursery rhyme that we all know by heart. This is more like a mystery story that centers around two sets of seemingly unrelated multiple murders. The victims include the rich and famous and the small and unknown. The story is set in Washington with DC homicide detective Alex Cross as the central character. This novel is the latest in a series of mysteries that take place in Washington and have Cross as protagonist.

Reading a mystery that identifies locales that we know has an added interest. Cross lives in Southeast Washington, his children go to a local school, and the action moves from Eastern Market to the Willard Hotel to the Kennedy Center. At one point in the story Cross is called to the White House for a briefing session; he is clearly the only stranger there and the only person ill at ease. He knows he stands out



James Patterson

because he remembers a comment heard years before: "If you can't spot the pigeon in a poker game, then you're probably it." He is the stranger there and he is over his head in high level politics. He has his hands full trying to unravel the mystery of multiple murders, playing politics when necessary, fulfilling his fatherly duties related to single parenthood, and trying to find a satisfying love life of his own.

There is plenty of action and suspense here to satisfy the most ardent mystery reader. The plot twists and storyline make it easy to understand why the book has been on the Washington Post and New York Times best seller lists for many months.

A copy of *Jack and Jill* is available at our Southwest Branch Library.

Community Thanksgiving Eve Service Scheduled

The Southwest Ministerial Association invites everyone to a community Thanksgiving Eve Service at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 27, 1996, at the Westminster Presbyterian Church, the white brick church on the corner of 4th and I (across from Amidon School).

The hour long service will include participation by the Rev. John Talbott (St. Augustine's), Father Joe Del Vecchio (St. Vincent's), Rev. Esther Holiman (Christ United Methodist), Rev. Franklin (Second Baptist Church), Mr. Rick Bardach (Southwest Community House), and Revs. Brian and Ruth Hamilton (Westminster Presbyterian).

Mrs. Zandra Earl (Friendship Baptist) will provide special music. Prayers, scriptures, a brief meditation and familiar hymns, such as "America the Beautiful", will help participants prepare for the nation's annual Thanksgiving celebration.

Community church members will be bringing pies and cakes for the reception at 8:00 p.m. following the service. A freewill offering as well as an offering of canned goods will help to replenish the Southwest Community House Food Bank for the Christmas season. Please bring one or more cans of vegetables, fruit, or meat (tuna, stew, chili, etc.). Childcare will be provided. Parking is available in the church lot off Makemie Place. If you would like more information please call Westminster Church at 484-7700.

Church News for the Holidays

Thanksgiving

Community Thanksgiving Service sponsored by the Southwest Ministerial Association. It will be at Westminster, 4th & I on November 27th at 7:00pm, reception will be at 8:00 pm. Please bring canned goods for SW Community Food Bank.

Thanksgiving Baskets will be donated on November 26 to needy persons. Call Mrs. Nella Franklin, 202-484-3112 to get on list, Second Baptist Church. Deadline to call, November 24.

Christmas

St. Dominic's Roman Catholic Church, Christmas eve 5:15 pm, 8:00 pm (Spanish Mass) 11:30 pm - Caroling and midnight mass, 6th & E, Christmas day 8:00 am, 11:00 am.

Second Baptist Church Dec. 21 at 6:00 pm - Cantata - Senior Choir

Annual "Watch Night" Dec. 21 Angel Tree (sponsored by Prison Ministries) gifts for children of prisoners - Sunday school - New Years Eve night, 7:00 pm - Love Feast afterwards - review of Annual Days and special events - video narrated by pastor 10:00 pm - 12:00 pm worship service.

St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, Christmas Eve-7:00 pm. Westminster Presbyterian Church, Christmas Eve Service of Carols and Candles, 7:30 PM, Parents are invited to bring children dressed as any character in the Christmas story to take part in creating the nativity scene.

At the time of publication, not all of the holiday services were known. Please call individual churches for details.

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MASSES

SATURDAY EVE: 5:15 pm
SUNDAY: 8:00 am, 9:30, 10:45 (Spanish Mass)
12:15, and 5:15 pm
HOLIDAYS: Evening before: 5:15 pm; day of:
7:30 am, 8:00, 11:30, 12:10, 12:50 and 5:15 pm
WEEKDAYS: 7:30 pm, 8:00, 8:20, and 12:10 pm
SATURDAY: 8:20 am and 12:10 pm.

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Sunday at 8:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday: 7:30 a.m., noon, & 6:30 p.m.

*To my Fans, Friends & Neighbors
Have the Merriest Holiday
Regardless of What it's Called.
May 1997 be the Best Year
of All for You.
God Bless You!*

Poet Margaret H. Oliver

In the "We Goofed Dept."

Bob Listou's name was misspelled
The ANC Meeting Date for Nov. was omitted
and sorry for anything else which was wrong.

There will not be an issue of the
paper in December. The next issue
will be distributed on January 17,
1997. Happy Holidays and
Have a Good Year.

SYPHAX SCHOOL REDEVELOPMENT

(Continued from page 1)

assembled group voted unanimously for the Second Baptist Church to turn the historic Syphax School building into their new church, and to work with the Enterprise Construction Corporation to build affordable townhomes for sale to private owners on the rest of the site. Part of the site would be reserved for parking spaces for the resident homeowners and for the church members, and part would be open green space. The church building itself would make its facilities available to serve community needs, both through ongoing church programs and activities, and more broadly for community meetings and other purposes.

The Southwest Neighborhood Assembly asked the four architects who led the community design workshop in July to work with the new co-developers and they all agreed to get involved. Peter Hetzel, who led the team, met with the Trustees of the Second Baptist Church and Ron Wilson from Enterprise Construction on November 2. One of the four architects, Ronnie McGhee, is an expert on historic preservation, and was the lead designer for Manna, Inc. in their successful efforts to restore the Whitelaw Hotel in the Shaw neighborhood of Washington DC, near the Lincoln Theater on U Street, N.W. UDA Architects in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, one of the finest architectural and planning firms in America that specializes in urban revitalization, will oversee the master plan and community design for the

Syphax School site. Ray Gindroz, UDA's principal architect and nationally-recognized leader of the "New Urbanism", will supervise the Syphax redevelopment planning and design. Mr. Gindroz is the architect and planner of many successful urban revitalization projects in low-income communities.

At this stage, Second Baptist Church and the Enterprise Construction Corporation are working with the architects to develop plans and cost estimates, working to create a feasible financing plan, reaching out to key community organizations such as the *Advisory Neighborhood Assembly (ANC 2-D) and the D.C. Preservation League, and talking to potential partners including the National Trust for Historic Preservation, D.C. Habitat for Humanity, and the Wiley Branton Community Development Corporation. Most importantly, Second Baptist and Enterprise are waiting for the District of Columbia government to make the Syphax School site available for redevelopment. The D.C. Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) is responsible for the site, and Duryea Smith, DHCD's Deputy Director, and Lucy Blackburn, DHCD Project Manager, stated last summer that the Syphax site would soon be made available, initially through a "request for expressions of interest." Since July, however, no action has been taken. The building has not been opened so that

cost estimates of its restoration can be made. This is essential for anyone interested in preserving the original building, and must be done soon by DHCD.

The SWNA has called for the city to donate the Syphax School site for redevelopment as affordable homeownership. The site is not considered to have much market value or interest on the part of for-profit developers, due to its location and the costs of school demolition and redevelopment. Donating the site would save the District government budget and security costs, turn a blighted neighborhood eyesore into a community asset, and the private homes would generate tax revenue for the city budget. The D.C. Board of Education in April unanimously passed a resolution sponsored by Ann Wilcox that urged the District government to donate the site, and both Mayor Marion Barry and Ward 2 City Council representative Jack Evans have expressed support for this idea. If the city were to donate the site and pay for demolition costs and basic infrastructure improvements such as street, sewer, and utility reconstruction, the development team of Second Baptist Church and Enterprise Construction Corporation can deliver a quality product that will bring dignity and economic opportunity to the Southwest neighborhood and to Washington, DC -- a major asset and an attractive showcase for our community. The Southwest Neighborhood Assembly will host a community meeting on November 25 with Anthony Williams, the city's Chief Financial Officer, and one of the topics for discussion at that open forum will be the redevelopment of the Syphax School site.

*On Nov. 18th the ANC unanimously voted to support Syphax project.

CHRISTMAS MUSIC AT THE NATIONAL

by Wallace Babington

The Monday night musical events at the National Theater include a concert that offers a wonderful opportunity to get the Christmas season underway. "A Celebration of Holiday Music" on December 16 features Damien Sheppard and operatic jazz soloist Ellen Gross, who join the Metropolitan Baha'i Chorale for Christmas music ranging from opera to jazz to gospel. Not only will we hear Mozart and Handel, but also be able to join the Chorale in singing Christmas carols. The concert is at 6:00 PM and 7:30 PM in the Helen Hayes Gallery at the National Theater, 1321 Pennsylvania Ave. NW. Free admission, first come, first seated.

Southwest Branch Public Library, 10:00-5:30 Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, 1:00 - 9:00 Tuesday.

A special "hello" to Greig Means, a new librarian at the Southwest Library.

The Southwester wants to wish everyone A Happy Holiday season!



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